

Gods mouth, wee shall dispatch them quickly.
But it is considerable, that the Bishops Govern-
ment is the greatest Idol in the Land, and has mul-
tplied Idolls all over the Christian world; And
now the Kings of the earth doe weep over them,
so doe the Merchants. Here will be a *Scuffle*, a
pleading for them; very little will be said for the
Arch-Bishops, more for the Bishops; much for the
defence of some, why they should not suffer with
the rest, who have offended *Rome* as eagerly in
shew, as others have defended her indeed; much
also for the continuing of the name, and of their
Office: We shall argue clear against all this, find
all guilty; *name and thing*, and all to be cast out.
And all this for the honour of the (Scripture)
Bishop, and for the confusion of the *lord*. Amen.

F 1 N 7 S.

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Bishop, and for the confusion of the *lord*. Amen.

F 1 N 7 S.

R. Twisse / wth others

16

CERTAINE
CONSIDERATIONS
TO
DIS-SVVADE MEN
FROM
FVRTHER GATHERING
OF
CHVRCHES

in this present juncture of Time.

Subscribed by diverse Divines of the
Assembly, hereafter mentioned.

Imprimatur pro Radulpho Smith.

Decemb. 23. 1643.

John White.



LONDON,

Printed for *Ralph Smith* at the signe of the Bible
in *Cornhill* neare the *Exchange*. 1643

28

CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND IRELAND

Subscribed by order of the
House of Commons



Printed by J. G. Smith at the
Printers of the House of Commons

LONDON
1832

Printed for J. G. Smith at the
Printers of the House of Commons



CERTAINE
CONSIDERATIONS
 TO
 Dissvvade men from further
 gathering of Churches in this
 present juncture of time.

ALthough we do not deeme our
 selves worthy at all to heale any
 of the bleeding wounds in this
 distressed Kingdome; Yet when
 wee consider, that, beside the
 raging of the sword devouring us every
 where, our miseries are increased by the sever-
 rall wayes of Brethren, and that many of those
 we dearely love in the Lord, are at this time
 entring themselves into Church-societies; we
 could not but in our tender love to the publike
 good,

good, and also out of Christian prudence, present unto their serious thoughts these considerations.

First, That although it be the duty of all the servants of Christ, to keepe themselves alwayes pure from corruption in Religion, and to indeavour in an orderly way, the Reformation of it; Yet is it an undoubted Maxime, that it belongs to Christian Magistrates in an especiall manner to be authorizers of, and Ministers of the Gospel to be Leaders in, such Reformation.

2. That while they are doing this worke, it is the duty of all people to pray for them, encourage them, joyne with them, and waite upon them.

3. That at this time God hath inclined the hearts of the Honorable Houses of Parliament to ingage themselves herein, and they have called an Assembly of Divines to assist them; and required them to make the Word their onely rule, and to endeavor the nearest conformitie to the best reformed Churches: at which worke they now are, and through Gods mercy have made some comfortable beginning.

beginning according to that rule.

4. That now all the power of Satan and Antichrist is combining by all possible meanes to destroy the Parliament, and to cause this worke of God to cease; Nothing can be more destructive to the friends of the cause of Religion, then to be divided amongst themselves; a thing which the enemies desire and endeavour to breed and foment by all possible meanes.

5. That it is not to bee doubted, but the councells of the Assembly of Divines, and the care of the Parliament will be, not onely to reforme and set up Religion throughout the Nation, but will concurre to preserve whatever shall appeare to be the rights of particular Congregations, according to the Word; and to beare with such whose Consciencs cannot in all things conforme to the publicke Ru'e, so farre as the word of God would have them borne withall.

6. That therefore all Ministers and people be earnestly intreated to forbear for a convenient time the joyning of themselves into Church-societies of any kind whatsoever, untill

till they see whether the right Rule will not
bee commended to them in this orderly
way.

7. And the rather because that although the
hand of God bee heavy upon us in other re-
spects, yet through his goodnesse those yoakes
are broken which we hitherto groaned under
in regard of corruption in Religion, wee en-
joying more liberty to serve God according to
his word, then at any time in England since the
beginning of the Reformation.

8. That while men are in expectation that
a way according to their consciences may be
approved or allowed of by the Magistrates, it
is unfit and will bee uncomfortable, be-
fore hand to provoke by setting up their
owne.

9. And lastly, that if after all their waiting,
the right rule should not bee delivered unto
them, and they then called to suffer (which
wee hope will never be) for doing what shall
appeare to be their dutie, they shall have the
more peace with God, and their consciences,
while they shall witnesse with them that to
prevent occasions of divisions they abstained
not.

not onely from what was sinfull, but even
from what was by them judged to bee lawfull
whilst unseasonable.

William Twisse.
Tho. Goodwin.
John White.
Oliver Bowles.
Stephen Marshall.
Phillip Nye.
Charles Herle.
Anthony Tuckney.
Jo. Arrowsmith.
William Bridge.
Thomas Young.

William Carter.
Herbert Palmer.
Sidrach Simpson.
William Greenbill.
Jer. Burroughes.
Richard Heyricke.
Joseph Carrill.
Thomas Hill.
Thomas Wilson.
Jer. Whitakers.

FINIS.